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County Health Officers—Duties and Salaries. (Act Sept. 25, 1915.)

I. That section 706 of the code of 1907 be, and the same hereby is, amended so as to read:

706. *Duties of county health officers; subdivision 1.*—It shall be the duty of a county health officer who devotes only a part of his time to the duties of his office.

1. To keep, under regulations prescribed by the State board of health, a book to be styled the register of births, in which book he shall register, so far as reported to him, the sex and color of every child born in the county, the date of such birth, the name or names, age or ages, race, color, and occupation of the parent or parents, together with such other details as said regulations may require; also a book to be styled the register of deaths, in which he shall register the name, so far as reported to him, of all persons who die in the county, specifying the date, place, and cause of death, also the sex, color, race, occupation, and, so far as can be ascertained, the ages of such deceased persons, together with such other details as may be required by said regulation; also a book to be styled the register of infectious diseases, in which book he shall register, so far as reported to him, the name, age, sex, color, race, occupation, and place of residence, together with such other details as may be required by said regulation, of all persons who may be attacked by any of the diseases enumerated in section 716 of this code; all of which registers shall be furnished by the court of county commissioners or other like board, and when filled said registers shall be filed by the county health officer in the office of the judge of probate of the county, who shall receipt therefor, and which receipt shall be forwarded by the county health officer to the State health officer for permanent filing.

2. To exercise, subject to the advice of the committee of public health and in accordance with the health laws of the State, general supervision over the sanitary interests of the county, and should he discover any cause of disease, or the existence of any condition detrimental to the health of the people, he shall, so far as authorized by law, compel the removal or abatement of the same, and should no authority for such removal or abatement exist he shall report the fact to the county board of health, adding such recommendations as to special action as he may deem proper.

3. To make personal and thorough investigation of the first case, or early cases, of any diseases suspected of being or known to be any one of those enumerated in section 716 of this code that may come to his knowledge or be reported to him, and should he decide such case or cases to be one of those enumerated in said section and in imminent danger of spreading, he shall in accordance with the law institute immediate measures to prevent the spread of such disease, and shall forthwith report the facts in writing to the judge of probate of the county, to the chairman of the committee of public health of the county board of health, and to the State health officer.

4. To obtain as needed at the expense of the county a sufficient supply of vaccine virus with which to vaccinate, without charge, all indigent persons of the county who may apply at his office, or at the offices of such physicians throughout the county as may be supplied with vaccine virus for the purpose of assisting him in the vaccination of such persons.

5. To visit the county jail, all convict camps where any county convicts are worked, and the county almshouse, at least once each month and to make careful investigation as respects the drinking water, the food, the clothing, and bedding supplied to the prisoners of the former and the inmates of the latter;

also, as to the ventilation, air space, heating and bathing facilities, closets, drainage, etc., of these institutions, and when any of said supplies are found to be inadequate in quantity or deficient in quality, or any of said conditions unsanitary, it shall be the duty of the county health officer to make in writing a circumstantial report thereof to the judge of probate and court of county commissioners or other like board, whereupon, it shall be the duty of said judge of probate and court of county commissioners to carry out whatever recommendations are made by the county health officer as respects the county jail and county almshouse, and said health officer shall forward duplicates of his reports to the county board of health and to the State health officer. He shall likewise visit the county courthouse and any other public building belonging to the county once each month and make investigations corresponding with those laid down in this section as applying to the jail and almshouse and should he find unsanitary conditions existing he shall report the same to the court of county commissioners or other like board, whereupon, it shall be the duty of said court of county commissioners to remedy the unsanitary condition in accordance with the recommendations of the county health officer.

6. To make to the State board of health by or before the 10th day of each calendar month a full report, so far as the facts reach him, of all cases of infectious diseases and of all births and deaths, specifying the causes of the latter that occur in the county, including all municipalities therein, for the preceding month.

7. To make to the judge of probate and court of county commissioners or other like board and to the county and State board of health by or before the 1st day of March of each year an annual report of all public health and sanitary work done in the county during the preceding year, which report shall include the vital and mortuary statistics of the county and of all municipalities therein, together with such information, suggestions, and recommendations in regard to the protection of the health of the people as he may deem proper.

8. To make to the State health officer prompt report of the presence in the county, so far as is reported to him, or as comes to his knowledge, of any of the diseases enumerated in section 716 of this code, furnishing such information and at such intervals as the State health officer may require.

9. To make to the county board of health such reports and at such time as said board may require.

10. To appear before the grand jury at each of its sittings and to report all violations of the health laws of the State, especially any failures on the part of the physicians of the county, including all municipalities therein, to report the births, deaths, and infectious diseases that occur in their practice; also, to report all failures on the part of midwives to report the births and the deaths that occur in their practice; also, to report failures on the part of dealers in coffins to report all sales of coffins made by them.

11. To authorize in writing any member of the county board of health to act for him in case of a contemplated absence from the county of such duration, or in case of a disability from any cause of such character, as would interfere with the discharge of his official duty: *Provided*, That such member accepts, in writing, such relegation of authority: *And provided further*, That he shall notify the chairman of the committee of public health of the county, the judge of probate of the county, and the State health officer of such arrangement.

12. To be present at all meetings of the county board of health for the purpose of keeping that body fully informed as to health conditions prevailing in the county, and to likewise keep the court of county commissioners or other like board informed on such matters as said board may deem proper.

13. To attend all conferences of county and municipal health officers which may be called by the State health officer.

14. To discharge such other health functions as are or may be required of him by law.

Subdivision 2.—Whenever the court of county commissioners or board of revenue of any county shall deem it wise to provide a county health officer who shall devote all of his time to the duties of his office, and so declare by order entered on the minutes of such court or board, it shall be the duty of the president of the county board of health, except of such counties as have already employed health officers for all of their time, to issue a call for a meeting of said board, giving the members thereof not less than 10 nor more than 15 days' notice of the meeting, and further informing them that the object of the meeting is to provide for a county health officer who shall devote his entire time to official work. When the county board of health meets as above provided for, not less than a majority of the members thereof being present, said board shall proceed to remove the incumbent county health officer from office and to declare the office vacant, the officer so removed being eligible for election to the new office. The county board of health shall then proceed to elect a county health officer, who shall devote his entire time to the duties of his office. The county board of health shall then instruct the secretary thereof to notify the court of county commissioners or board of revenue that a health officer has been elected for the county for a term of three years, giving the name and address of the officer so elected, such officer to devote his entire time in promoting the health of the people of the county.

Subdivision 3.—It shall be the duty of all county health officers elected under the preceding subdivision 2 to devote all of their time to official work and to perform all of the duties above prescribed in this section, and in addition thereto the following:

1. To devote their entire time to the public health interests of the county and under no circumstances to engage in private practice.

2. To occupy an office in the courthouse of the county, to be assigned by the court of county commissioners or board of revenue, and, in the event of an office in the county courthouse not being available the said court or board shall provide an office for said county health officer conveniently located with reference to the courthouse.

3. To visit, so far as lies in their power, all cases of infectious or contagious diseases that occur in the county, for the purpose of seeing that all proper measures are enforced to prevent their spread, and to repeat these visits from time to time as may be necessary.

4. To make a special effort to locate all cases of tuberculosis and pellagra in the county, especially incipient cases, with a view of not only urging prompt treatment thereof but also the adoption of such precautions as are deemed necessary to protect others.

5. To inspect the schools of the county at least once annually with the view of seeing that they are supplied with pure drinking water and surrounded by sanitary conditions in all respects, especially to investigate whether or not said schools are equipped with sanitary closets; further, to examine the pupils of the schools at least once annually for the purpose of ascertaining any defects of sight or of hearing that may exist, or of ascertaining the presence of adenoids, enlarged tonsils, skin diseases, spinal curvature, hookworm disease, etc., that may interfere with progress in their studies, and whenever any of the above named diseases or defects are discovered the county health officer shall so notify the parents of the child affected.

6. To teach the proprietors of slaughterhouses, dairies, grocery houses, hotels, lunch stands, etc., the importance of protecting all food products from dust and insects of every kind; also, to impress upon the people of the county the importance of similar protection in their own homes.

7. To teach the people of the county by lectures, newspaper articles and demonstrations the causes, modes of propagation, and of prevention of diseases, with special reference to the spread of disease by flies, mosquitoes, rats, fleas, ticks, and other vermin; also the importance of screening their houses against these purveyors of disease.

8. To teach the people of the county how to maintain sanitary conditions in and around their homes, especially how to supply themselves with pure drinking water and pure milk, and also how to provide sanitary closets.

9. To make such reports as may be required of them to the county board of health, to the court of county commissioners, and to the State health officer, said reports to be made on such blanks and forms as may be prescribed by the State board of health.

10. To attend meetings of the court of county commissioners or board of revenue from time to time, or whenever so requested, for the purpose of giving said court or board all desired information as respects the public health interests of the county.

11. To discharge such other health functions as are, or may be, required of him by law.

II. That section 707 of the code of 1907 be, and the same hereby is, amended so as to read:

707. *Salary of county health officer; how paid.*—The salary of the health officer of a county shall be fixed by the court of county commissioners or board of revenue: *Provided*, That in counties of 10,000 inhabitants or less the salary shall not be fixed at a lower rate than \$20 per thousand of population, and in counties of more than 10,000 inhabitants the decrease in the above rate shall not exceed 10 cents per thousand of population up to a population of 100,000, beyond which no further decrease shall be made. The salary for the health officer of a county shall be computed upon the basis of the last United States census, and shall be paid quarterly from the county treasury by the officer legally authorized to draw warrants on said treasury. The salary of health officers, commonly known as "all-time health officers," who are to devote their entire time to official work, shall be determined and paid as follows: In counties of less than 20,000 inhabitants the salary shall be not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$1,800 per annum; in counties of from 20,000 to 30,000 inhabitants the salary shall be not less than \$1,500 and not more than \$2,500 per annum; in counties of from 30,000 to 40,000 inhabitants the salary shall be not less than \$1,800 and not more than \$3,000 per annum; in counties of from 40,000 to 80,000 inhabitants the salary shall be not less than \$2,500 and not more than \$3,500; in counties of more than 80,000 inhabitants the salary shall be not less than \$3,000 and not more than \$5,000 per annum; all salaries to be based on population as shown by the latest Federal census, and to be paid monthly from the county treasury on warrants of the officer legally authorized to draw warrants on said treasury: *Provided*, That in counties having a population, according to the last or any succeeding Federal census, of not less than 82,000 and not more than 100,000 said health officer's salary shall not be less than \$2,400 nor more than \$3,600 annually payable monthly.